

BIDDING SIMPLER AT PIRATE BRIDGE

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Results at Duplicate and the
New Game Compared—
Death of "Mogul."

By R. F. FOSTER.
News has just been received from London of the passing away at the advanced age of 87 of one of the greatest whist players of the past century—Mathias Boyce, who was known all over the card playing world for his remarkable criticisms on the game over the signature of "Mogul."

An interview with him was published in THE SUNDAY SUN some years ago, in which he advanced the opinion that duplicate, then a favorite game in this country, did not prove anything as valuable, unnecessary as a means of determining the best players in a club because that would be seen by any tell-tale card-watcher.

Duplicate, he thought, might show that a player was very good, but a partner and very poor with another, or success in the game was no proof a player would be equally successful in the ordinary rubber, cutting in with sorts of players. "It is not necessary to be a 'collected' man," he said, to demonstrate that certain players continually lose tricks.

This is especially interesting evidence of the fact that "Cavendish" was not the original genius who played the first duplicate game on record, "Cavendish" being his name in that connection, but that what was made in London in the years ago last February.

That "Mogul" should have made a top score in the first round of a game whose system of play he did not understand speaks well for his skill. "Mogul" is the name of the leaders of the opposition to the "Cavendish" movement, and a believer in the short suit game, which was afterward put prominently before the players of this country in the columns of THE STARS.

It is a sign of his disapproval of "Cavendish" that

So many people are playing bridge these days that interesting comparisons between it and royal rummy are better able to be made. And players of the new game than that of a few weeks ago. One outstanding example of this is the fact that there have been few "one-riters" who have gone all to pieces at auction.

Duplicate is supposed to expose the weaknesses of any system of play by a comparison of results. How are we to account for the fact that when twenty-eight of the best players in the leading card clubs in the twenty-eight states riters, we found that the maximum score for north and south hands in 1,261

that a difference of 125 points in the results due to the bidding at auction is a significant difference. If you are not sure, you can play the game?

If the bidding at auction is not a significant difference, you should be able to play the game with seven cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with six cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with five cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with four cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with three cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with two cards in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with one card in a hand. If you are not sure, you can play the game with no cards in a hand.

Here is a case in point. The game was played in the regular play match at the Knickerbocker on a day.

Q ♠ 9 8 7
K ♠ 7 3
10 5

♠ J 8 5 4
 ♥ 6 5 4 3
 ♦ A K Q 6 7
 ♣ 7
 ♠ A K 10 9
 ♥ K Q 2
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ A K Q 2

Z dealt, and at every table he seemed to have bid no trump, and as every one but one N bid two diamonds when Z passed, which was Z's bid, higher of his two major suits, spades, and went east.

At one table N did not bid no

♠ 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 9 8 7 6 5 4 3
 ♣ A J

This hand was played in a five possible declarations. At one table all four suits were successful. A started with a two diamond, two hearts, two spades. At another table A passed. He is not strong in one club, but he has a good two in two suits. At a third table A passed. Z three clubs and A trumps, which he made.

At one table A one of the best of going three to make the contract for 112 points. The table Y played in that he had by A, and with a good hand. At still another table A was

three diamonds at 4 in. 10 below and 45 above.

"I tried to get the papers when the pirate took the Z passed and A told me to stop and when I got another A I trump. As Y knew we were wanted to stop the papers and the ace of clubs was in their hand, because of this their partner's declaration.

"Any person possessed of sense, certified with a card asked to compare the hand at auction and at that probably be willing to bet that it is a game of 1000 or other. It is a straight proposition.

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News has just been received from London of the passing away at the advanced age of 87 of one of the greatest whist players of the past century—Mathias Boyce, who was known all over the card playing world for his remarkable criticisms on the game over the signature of "Mogul."

An interview with him was published in THE SUNDAY SUN some years ago, in which he advanced the opinion that duplicate, then a favorite game in this country, did not prove anything as valuable, unnecessary as a means of determining the best players in a club because that would be seen by any tell-tale card would.

Duplicate, he thought, might show that a player was very good, but a partner and very poor with another, or success in the game was no proof a player would be equally successful in the ordinary round, cutting in with sorts of players. "It is not necessary to be a 'collected' man," he said, to demonstrate that certain players continually lose tricks.

This is especially interesting evidence of the fact that "Cavendish" was not the original genius who played the first duplicate game on record, "Cavendish" being his name in that connection, but that what was made in London in the years ago last February.

That "Mogul" should have made a top score in the first round of a game whose system of play he did not understand speaks well for his skill. "Mogul" speaks for the leaders of the opposition, the "Cavendish" for the followers, a believer in the short suit game, who was afterwards put prominently before the eyes of the country in the columns of THE SPECTATOR, and in the face of his disapproval of "Cavendish."

So many people are playing bridge these days that interesting comparisons between it and royal rummy are better able to be made. The merits of the new game than that of a few weeks ago. One obvious reason for this remarkable change has been ease of play. That is, it goes all to pieces at auction.

Duplicate is supposed to expose the player to the weakness of any system of play by a computer. It is not clear how are we to account for the fact that when twenty-eight of the best players in the leading card clubs in the twenty-eight states, districts and territories, found that the maximum score for north and south hands in 1,261

that a difference of 2 bids on the same cards, or 125 points in a deal, makes a difference in the results due to the fact that the bidding at auction is a game or more and no one knows how to play the game?

If the bidding at auction is a game, it is correct as it should be after 10 years experience. One of the other hand is bid at seven tables in a day, a game six of them will get it wrong while at private play the cards would be bid without the possibility of error.

Here is a case in point. The game was played in the regular double match at the Knickerbocker the other day.

Q ♠ 9 8 7
K ♠ 7 3
10 5 3

♠ J 8 5 4
 ♥ 6 5 4 3
 ♦ A K Q 6 7
 ♣ 7
 ♠ A K 10 9
 ♥ K Q 2
 ♦ 9 6
 ♣ A K Q 2

Z dealt, and at every table he seemed to have bid no trump, and as every one but one N bid two diamonds when Z passed, which was Z's bid, higher of his two major suits, spades, and went east.

At one table N did not bid no

Some friends, however, think that no trump bid for 7, even after the 6-5, is a little premature. They think he should have started with 6, and all the books say it is a very good trump, as one can never win for less in all four suits.

At this time there are no questions in the matter. Z undoubtedly has a trump, except for the diamond. Therefore he bids a diamond suit. The player who has the strength of the hand knows that he is the best one for a partner when Z goes out. After the diamond is accepted, Z gets a slam at no trump for 7-50.

At auction each bids his best suit. No one knows whether his suit is right or not. Take this deal, and see the seventh of those tabulated systems which is the best one for making a slam, at no trump, 5-50.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| ♠ | Q 9 8 7 3 2 |
| ♥ | 2 |
| ♦ | 5 4 3 |
| ♣ | A J |

This hand was played in a five possible declarations. At one table all four suits were successful. Z started with A two diamonds, one heart, one spade. At another table Y passed. He is not strong in any one club, but he has a good two in each. At a third table Y passed, Z three clubs and A trumped, which he made.

At one table A was the steed of going three to make the contract for 112 points. The table Y played, it was the only one where A was successful. At still another table A was

three diamonds at 4 in. 10 below and 45 above.

"Afterwards we saw a small boat when the pirate took the Z passed and A told me to go and when I got another 45 I trump. As Y knew we were wanted to stop the speaking and the ace of clubs was taken this last because of the partner's declaration.

"Any person possessed of sense, certified with a good asked to compare the hand at auction and at that probably be willing to bet that it is a game of 1000 or other. It is a straight proposition.